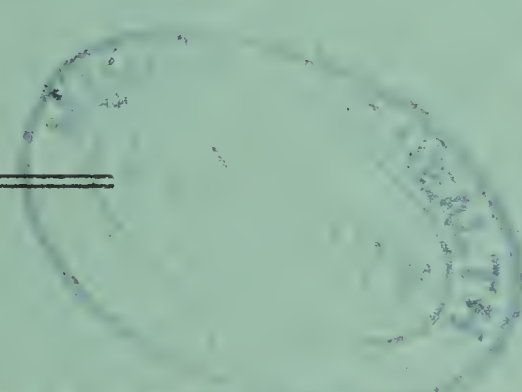


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Northwich Rural District Council.



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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ended 31st Dec., 1952.

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NORTHWICH :

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HEALTH  
A 24 OCT 53  
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# NORTHWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

TELEPHONE 4274 NORTHWICH

WHITEHALL, HARTFORD,  
NORTHWICH,

CHESHIRE

W.F. CRAWFORD, F.C.I.S.,  
CLERK & SOLICITOR OF THE COUNCIL.

YOUR REF. M/5  
OUR REF.

23rd October, 1953.

The Secretary,  
Ministry of Health,  
Saville Row,  
LONDON, W.1.

Sir,  
Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
Year ended 31st December, 1952.

I enclose herewith 4 copies of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ended 31st December, 1952.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,



Clerk of the Council.

JKA/WS

ENCLOSURE



Northwich Rural District Council.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ended 31st Dec., 1952.

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NORTHWICH :

W. HOBSON & SON, LTD., PRINTERS.



# Northwich Rural District Council.

## Health Report for 1952.

### To the Chairman and Members of the Northwich Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the following statement of essential matters affecting the Public Health of the District during the year 1952.

### SECTION A.

#### STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57,547 acres
Population — Registrar-General's latest estimate of population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40,440
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1952)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,395
Rateable Value (1st October, 1952)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£207,208
Sum represented by a penny rate (year 1951/52)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£792 10 6

The following extracts from vital statistics of the year relate to net births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar-General.

		Total	M.	F.		
Live Births	Legitimate ..	787	409	378	{	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population
	Illegitimate ..	21	12	9		19·98
Still Births	Legitimate ..	18	9	9	{	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births ..
	Illegitimate ..	—	—	—		21·79
Deaths..	..	388	207	181	{	Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ..
	..	..	..	..		9·59
						After adjustment by the Comparability Factor .. .. . 9·59
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—						
	All infants per 1000 live births	..	..	..	..	28·46
	Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	27·95
	Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	47·62
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	61
„ „ Diphtheria (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	—
„ „ Meningococcal Infections (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	—
„ „ Acute Poliomyelitis (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	—
„ „ Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	—



The following table compares the main statistics for 1952 with the years 1941-1951:—

Year.	Popu- lation	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Death Rate	No. of Deaths from Cancer	No. of Deaths from Tubercu- losis
1941.	30,850	.. 15.59	.. 10.98	.. 36.58	.. 42	.. 11
1942.	29,800	.. 16.17	.. 10.36	.. 45.64	.. 43	.. 9
1943.	28,900	.. 16.47	.. 10.72	.. 37.81	.. 40	.. 11
1944.	28,730	.. 18.16	.. 10.47	.. 30.65	.. 52	.. 14
1945.	28,460	.. 17.39	.. 11.59	.. 50.50	.. 55	.. 18
1946.	29,640	.. 18.04	.. 11.57	.. 28.03	.. 48	.. 13
1947.	30,650	.. 20.22	.. 11.97	.. 29.03	.. 56	.. 5
1948.	31,790	.. 18.71	.. 10.09	.. 23.56	.. 42	.. 4
1949.	32,660	.. 18.21	.. 9.76	.. 42.01	.. 70	.. 5
1950.	34,970	.. 19.98	.. 11.55	.. 37.19	.. 72	.. 11
1951.	38,310	.. 20.75	.. 11.30	.. 32.70	.. 66	.. 7
1952.	40,440	.. 19.98	.. 9.59	.. 28.46	.. 61	.. 7

### CAUSES OF DEATH — 1952

(Taken from the Registrar-General's Tables).

	MALES.	FEMALES	TOTAL.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory .. .. .	4	2	6
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis ... .. .	—	1	1
3. Syphilitic Disease ... .. .	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria... .. .	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough... .. .	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections .. .. .	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis... .. .	—	—	—
8. Measles .. .. .	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases .. .. .	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... .. .	11	5	16
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus... .. .	3	—	3
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... .. .	—	9	9
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... .. .	—	2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms... .. .	21	10	31
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... .. .	—	2	2
16. Diabetes ... .. .	2	—	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ... .. .	19	30	49
18. Coronary disease, angina ... .. .	25	20	45
19. Hypertension with heart disease ... .. .	—	2	2
20. Other heart disease ... .. .	34	45	79
21. Other circulatory disease ... .. .	8	12	20
22. Influenza ... .. .	1	1	2
23. Pneumonia ... .. .	15	4	13
24. Bronchitis ... .. .	11	2	19
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ... .. .	4	1	5
26. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ... .. .	3	3	6
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... .. .	2	—	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis... .. .	5	2	7
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ... .. .	3	—	3
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... .. .	—	1	1
31. Congenital malformations ... .. .	1	3	4
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... .. .	22	20	42
33. Motor vehicle accidents... .. .	8	—	8
34. All other accidents ... .. .	4	2	6
35. Suicide .. .. .	1	2	3
36. Homicide and operations of war ... .. .	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>388</b>



### **New Industries.**

During the year no enquiries were received by the Council for sites for light industries, but progress was made with negotiations for the proposal to erect a Factory in the Weaverham area.

## **SECTION B.**

### **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.**

#### **(1) Staff.**

W. S. Slater, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health.	(Services shared with the other three Mid- Cheshire Districts, the County Council and the North and Mid- Cheshire Hospital Man- agement Committee).
Clerical Staff.	1 person (whole-time).	(Services shared with the other three Mid- Cheshire Districts).
J. S. Carrie, Cert. R.S.I. Cert. Meat & Food Inspection. Cert. Sanitary Science. Cert Smoke Inspection & Boiler House Management. Hon. Cert. Hygiene R.I. Public Health & Hygiene.	Chief Sanitary Inspector.	(Northwich Rural Dis- trict only).
H. R. Worsley.	Assistant Sanitary Inspector.	-do-
W. P. Musgrave	Assistant to Sanitary Inspector.	-do-
Clerical Staff.	2 persons (whole-time).	-do-

#### **(2) Laboratory Facilities.**

The Public Health Laboratory Services in Manchester, which are provided free of charge to the Northwich Rural District Council, proved adequate during the year. In addition, this Service has co-operated in the transport of the samples twice monthly from this area. Details of the samples and specimens are given later in the report.

### (3) **Environmental Services.**

Details of the other Services, e.g. Sanitary and Housing Inspections, Food Examinations, etc., etc., provided by the Northwich Rural District are recorded later in this report.

(4) The Cheshire County Council have Officers discharging duties in the Rural Area under the following Services:— School Medical, Maternity and Child Welfare, Tuberculosis, School Dental, Health Visiting, Weights and Measures Inspection, Specialist Services, e.g. Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Paediatric, Home and Domiciliary Midwifery Services, etc., etc.

(5) Davenham Isolation Hospital, under the North and Mid-Cheshire Hospital Management Committee, provided Hospital treatment for the area's Infectious cases and during the year admitted 103 patients from the Northwich Rural District.

(6) The Mid-Cheshire Divisional Health Committee (under the auspices of the County Council) provided the following Services:—

#### (a) **Vaccination and Immunisation Schemes.**

The work done during the year 1952 in Northwich Rural District is detailed as follows.

##### **Diphtheria Immunisation.**

No. of children who have completed treatment during 1952 ... ..	713
---	-----

In addition, 617 booster injections were given.

The percentage of children under the age of five years known to have received this protective treatment is ... ..	49%
---	-----

##### **Vaccination against Smallpox.**

No. of persons who have been vaccinated during 1952	476
---	-----

##### **Immunisation against Whooping Cough.**

No. of children who have been treated during 1952 ...	435
---	-----

All the above figures are a definite improvement on last year's which, in themselves, were satisfactory.

As to the immunisation against whooping cough, this has not been unduly pushed as its efficacy, though likely to be good, has not yet been fully substantiated. It seems likely that in the near future there will be introduced on the market a combined prophylactic which will safeguard children from both whooping cough and diphtheria. When this has been fully proved to be both safe and effective, I feel sure that the Mid-Cheshire Divisional Health Committee will make it available for use by the local doctors. This will enable the course of treatment against both diseases to be reduced from five injections, as at present, to three.



The protective treatments against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Smallpox remain a free service under the National Health Service Act.

(b) **Sitting Case Car and Ambulance Service.**

The service in the area has dealt with Northwich Rural patients expeditiously and without serious complaint throughout the year.

(c) **Prevention of Illness — Care and After Care.**

A variety of medical equipment and comforts were provided for the use of the sick in a number of homes during the year.

(d) **Domestic Help Service.**

Domestic Helps have been provided during 1952 in 83 households in the Rural District. The kind of cases assisted included confinement, old age and tuberculosis, etc.

## **SECTION C.**

### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

**Water Supplies.**—The Council's housing development during the year has necessitated extension to distribution mains by the Mid & South East Cheshire Water Board at Barnton, Cuddington, Davenham, Lostock Gralam, Oakmere, Tarporley and Weaverham.

Also, during 1952, the Water Board have taken steps to augment the supply to Weaverham, Little Leigh and Barnton by the construction of a new trunk main from Oakmere Corner. Although this main was not completed during the year, it is expected that it will be brought into use early in 1953.

**Water Samples.**—The Water Board has submitted to me for information 70 copies of the Analyst's Reports of samples of water taken in the Northwich Rural District, all of which were reported upon as satisfactory.

In addition, the Health Department has taken 7 samples of drinking water for submission to an independent laboratory. 4 of the 7 reports were satisfactory, the remaining 3 being adversely reported upon. 2 of the 3 unsatisfactory reports relate to Utkinton Hall well and as yet no alternative satisfactory supply is available. In the remaining case, the property has been condemned, is likely to be vacated at an early date, and in the meantime the occupants have access to an alternative satisfactory supply.

**Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.**—The following statement, for which I am indebted to Mr. J. B. Birtwistle, the Engineer and

Surveyor of the Council, sets out in some detail the main drainage schemes and activities of the Council during 1952:—

**“Delamere Area.**—During the year the reconstruction of the Sewage Disposal Works to serve the Council’s housing estate adjoining Delamere Schools was completed and this enabled the existing unit immediately adjoining the houses to be demolished.

Regarding the Station Road area and the adjoining area in the Parish of Oakmere, the Council has not been able to proceed further with this project due to discussions with the Water Board not having progressed.

**Cotebrook Village — Parish of Utkinton.**—Construction works commenced in respect of the sewerage of the Cotebrook village area and the construction of the Sewage Disposal Works. The system will be completed and in operation during the early part of 1953.

**Little Budworth.**—The proposals of the Council to use the Sewage Disposal Works constructed by the Ministry of Works to serve Oulton Park Camp were submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, who, although approving the scheme in principle, could not authorise the loan sanction due to the restrictions on capital expenditure. It became aware later in the year, however, that the Council might not be able to acquire the works in any case, due to the interest of the Estate in the works now that the proposal to construct a Motor Racing Circuit in the Park is likely to be approved.

**Moulton.**—In the latter part of the year the Ministry of Housing and Local Government held an Inquiry into the scheme to abandon the present Moulton Disposal Works. The scheme provides for sewage to be taken down to a Pumping Station at Mereheath, from where it will be discharged to the gravity system for the Parish of Davenham. It is hoped that Ministry approval will be received to enable a start to be made on this scheme early in 1953.

**Davenham.**—The Ministry of Housing and Local Government held a local Inquiry into the proposal of the Council to extend the Davenham Sewage Disposal Works, the extension being necessary due to the housing development at Leftwich by the Northwich Urban District Council, the Council’s own development in the Parish of Davenham, and the proposal to abandon the Moulton Disposal Works. It is hoped that approval will be received from the Ministry to enable a start to be made on the extension to the Davenham Sewage Disposal Works early in 1953.



**Barnton.**—In view of the considerable housing development which has taken place at Barnton, the position regarding the Sewage Disposal Works at Gunnersclough and Riverside was reviewed by the Council and instructions given to prepare a scheme for submission to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. This was done and submitted to the Ministry during the latter part of the year. An Inquiry into the scheme will be held by the Ministry early in 1953.

**General.**—New sewers of considerable length, both foul and surface water, have been laid on the major housing sites at Barnton, Weaverham, Lostock Gralam, Moulton, Davenham and Tarporley.”

**Closet Accommodation.** — The whole of the works of conversion in the Parishes of Rudheath, Cuddington and Weaverham were completed early in the year.

During the year 15 conversions were carried out under the Council's Grant Aid and 9 under Statutory Notices.

Under the following headings, Mr. J. S. Carrie, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, reports as follows:—

**“Night Soil” Collection.** — Collection serves the undernoted Parishes:—

Marston	Delamere
Wincham	Little Leigh
Acton	Rudheath (part)
Crowton	Darnhall (part)
Cuddington (part)	Lach Dennis (part)
Weaverham (part)	Wimboldsley (part)
Anderton	Stanthorne (part)
Comberbach	Lostock Gralam (part)
Oakmere	Bostock (part)

**Public Cleansing Services.**—The Council operates a comprehensive house-refuse collection service throughout the area, collection taking place fortnightly. The scavenging fleet consists of the following vehicles:—

1 S.D. Freighter	1 Dennis Nightsoil and Cesspool
1 Bedford	Emptyer
2 Dennis Paxits	1 Aveling-Barford Calfdozer for
2 Dennis Freighters	Operation of Controlled
	Tipping

The labour force employed consists of:—

1 General Foreman	1 Calfdozer Operator
6 Drivers	19 Scavenging Loaders

During the year 3,417 loads of refuse were removed and disposed of in the reclamation of land. In addition, 418 cesspools and septic tanks were pumped and cleansed.

**Salvage of Waste Material.**—Salvage of waste materials has been well maintained. The total income from sales amounted to £2,575. The following materials were salvaged:—

				Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Paper	...	...	...	267	9	2	0
Scrap Metals	...	...	...	1	4	3	5
Textiles	...	...	...	13	2	3	15

**Destruction of Rats and Mice.**—298 premises were treated, involving 1,755 operational visits. The contract figure for the period amounted to £404 and the amounts received in connection with isolated clearances totalled £44 3s. 9d. The Council again operated jointly with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in the treatment of rats in sewers and received appropriate grants.

**Recreational Sites and Playing Fields.**—Under this heading Mr. Birtwistle reports:—

“Further assistance has been given by the Council to the proposals of various Parishes to lay out playing fields and provide equipment thereon.”

**Swimming Baths and Pools.**—There are no public swimming baths in the Council's district, but the following private baths have been in use during the year:—

Fourways Cafe, Oakmere	
I.C.I., Marbury Hall Park	} Not available to general public.
I.C.I., Acton	

Samples were taken during 1952 and submitted for bacteriological examination, with the following results:—

20. 8. 1952	Sample of swimming-bath water from Marbury Hall Club	... “Satisfactory”
17. 9. 1952	Sample of swimming-bath water from Marbury Hall Club	... “Satisfactory”
20. 8. 1952	Sample of swimming-bath water from Fourways Club, Oakmere	“Unsatisfactory”
3. 9. 1952	Sample of swimming-bath water from Fourways Club, Oakmere	“Unsatisfactory”

Regarding the above two unsatisfactory reports, the Council did consider the making of byelaws with a view to securing better supervision of this pool, but finally decided to defer action for the present.

**Common Lodging Houses.**—There are no Common Lodging Houses in the Rural District.



**Camping Sites.**—The following licensed camping sites continued in operation during the year:—

- (1) Four Ways Cafe, Allostock.
- (2) Crabtree Green Garage Site, Oakmere (Mr. S. Worth).
- (3) Eddisbury Hill (Mrs. Speachley).
- (4) Eddisbury Hill (Mr. L. K. Beckwith).
- (5) Two Sites in Sandy Lane, Acton.
- (6) Wash Lane, Allostock (Mr. S. Worth).
- (7) Tarporley Road, Oakmere (Mr. D. Forster).
- (8) Forest View Inn, Oakmere (Mrs. Clarke).
- (9) Daleford Lane, Marton (Mr. Dickenson).
- (10) Little Budworth Mill (Mr. H. W. Booth).

In addition to the above sites, which are for groups of caravans, there are approximately fourteen sites where individual caravans only have been authorised.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

### Statement of Inspections made and Notices Issued.

Nature of Inspections made.	Number.	Informal Notices		Statutory Notices	
		Issued	Compl- ied with	Issued	Compl- ied with
1. Dwelling Houses (general inspection) ..	911	51	29	22	14
2. Dwelling Houses (overcrowding) ..	13	—	—	—	—
3. Moveable Dwellings .. ..	56	—	—	1	—
4. Sanitary Accommodation .. ..	65	7	5	—	29
5. Drainage, Septic Tanks and Cesspools ..	849	24	18	—	—
6. Ditches and Watercourses .. ..	8	8	8	—	—
7. Offensive Accumulations .. ..	25	3	1	—	—
8. Keeping of Animals .. ..	24	1	—	—	—
9. Provision of Ashbins .. ..	103	97	91	—	—
10. Supervision of Refuse Tips .. ..	74	—	—	—	—
11. Supervision of Refuse Collections ..	111	—	—	—	—
12. Slaughterhouses .. ..	33	—	—	—	—
13. Bakehouses and other places where food is prepared .. ..	408	218	217	—	—
14. Dairies and Cowsheds .. ..	44	4	4	—	—
15. Factories etc. .. ..	63	1	7	—	—
16. Protection & sampling of Water Supplies	47	—	—	—	—
17. Canal Boats .. ..	8	2	2	—	—
18. Infectious Diseases and Investigations ..	117	—	—	—	—
19. Schools, Inspections and Disinfections ..	7	—	—	—	—
20. Disinfection of Premises .. ..	134	—	—	—	—
21. Deratisation of Premises .. ..	1755	1	1	—	—
22. Smoke Observations .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
23. Miscellaneous Disinfestations .. ..	153	—	—	—	—
24. Control of Swimming Baths .. ..	5	1	1	—	—
Totals ..	5013	418	384	23	43

## FACTORIES INSPECTION.

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		In- spections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	13	2	---	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	116	61	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. ..	114	—	—	—
Total .. ..	243	63	1	—

## CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective .. ..	1	7	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	1	7	—	—	—

## SECTION D. HOUSING.

**New Houses.**—During the year the figures in connection with the provision of houses in the district erected by the Council and by private enterprise show a total for the year of 537. This figure is made up of 501 houses built by the Council and 36 built by private enterprise.

The Parishes in which the houses have been erected are as shown in the following schedule:—

Parishes.	COUNCIL HOUSES COMPLETED.	PRIVATE HOUSES COMPLETED.
Allostock ... ..	—	2
Barnton ... ..	81	3
Cuddington ... ..	60	9
Davenham ... ..	23	10
Delamere ... ..	—	1
Hartford ... ..	—	2
Little Leigh ... ..	—	1
Lostock Gralam ... ..	26	1
Marton ... ..	—	3
Oakmere ... ..	14	1
Rudheath ... ..	16	3
Tarporley ... ..	6	—
Weaverham ... ..	275	—
Total .. ...	501	36

**Unfit Houses.**—During the year, 18 houses were demolished, 14 by statutory action and 4 by agreement, as follows:—

By Statutory Action:

		No. of persons re-housed as a result.	
		Adults	Children
“Boat Dock Cottage,” Anderton ... ..	...	—	—
26, Plumb’s Fold, Barnton ... ..	...	3	1
“Sea View,” Platts Field, Wincham ... ..	...	4	1
1, School Lane, Lostock Gralam ... ..	...	—	—
7, Station Road, Lostock Gralam ... ..	...	2	1
9, Station Road, Lostock Gralam ... ..	...	—	—
1, Senna Lane, Comberbach ... ..	...	5	—
3, Senna Lane, Comberbach ... ..	...	—	—
5, Senna Lane, Comberbach ... ..	...	—	—
“High Trees,” Moss Lane, Wincham ... ..	...	2	2
8, Wincham Lane, Wincham ... ..	...	3	—
8a, Wincham Lane, Wincham ... ..	...	2	5
10, Wincham Lane, Wincham ... ..	...	5	—
10a, Wincham Lane, Wincham ... ..	...	2	1
Total ... ..	...	28	11



By Agreement:

Victoria Works Bungalow, Wincham  
 "Fishpool Cottage," Delamere  
 Cottage, Canal Side, Little Leigh  
 6, Wincham Lane, Wincham

Progress has been made by the Council in connection with the removal of unauthorised sheds, etc. The following properties in the Wincham/Pickmere area have been demolished and the sites cleared:—

"Fairview," Platts Field, Wincham  
 "Seaview," Platts Field, Wincham  
 "Brownlea," Platts Field, Wincham  
 "Clovelly," Moss Lane, Wincham  
 "Wordsworth," Moss Lane, Wincham  
 2 Caravans known as "Ivy Leaf" situated at the corner of Moss Lane, Wincham

The squatters' camp at Hartford Manor has now been completely vacated and all the hutments have been demolished.

Reasonable housing conditions have been generally maintained in the Rural District, the Council's inspectors having paid 911 visits to such properties. The outcome of these visits resulted in many improvements and it was only necessary to issue 22 Statutory Notices. In cases of old sub-standard dwellings, first-aid repairs only were required.

The total number of houses subject to Demolition Orders and occupied under Regulation 68AA, Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, are as follows:—

Rushton ... 3 houses      Barnton ... 2 houses

## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

**Milk.**—92 samples of milk were submitted to the Laboratory during 1952, with the following results:—

GRADE.	METHYLENE BLUE TEST.		PHOSPHATASE TEST.	
	Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
" Ordinary " ...	18	3	—	—
" Accredited " ...	—	—	—	—
(Raw)				
" T.T. " (Raw) ...	8	—	—	—
" Pasteurised " ...	43	1	43	1
" T.T. Pasteurised " ..	17	2	17	2

28 samples were also submitted to the Laboratory for examination for Tubercle Bacilli, all with negative results.

The total number of licences held under the Milk (Special Designations) Order for the year:—

Authorising dealers to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested":—

(a) in respect of the sale of bottled milk only ... ..	24
(b) in respect of licence to bottle ... ..	3

Authorising dealers to use the special designation "Pasteurised":—

(a) in respect of the sale of bottled milk only ... ..	24
(b) in respect of licence to bottle ... ..	3

Supplementary licences authorising the use of the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" ... .. 12

Supplementary licences authorising the use of the special designation "Pasteurised" ... .. 12

The Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries Veterinary Officers were notified of and dealt with cases of tuberculosis occurring in 31 Herds.

**Meat.**—No regular slaughtering has taken place in the district as all the sixteen licensed slaughter-houses are closed due to the operation of the Ministry of Food's Order.

**Slaughter of Animals Act.**—44 suspected cases of Anthrax were reported under this Act, one of which was confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture.

**Other Foods.**—The following is a summary of meat and other foods condemned during the year:—

3 tins Pork in Juice	1 tin Peaches
1 tin Carrots	2 tins Pineapple Juice
2 tins Apricots	1 tin Grapefruit Juice
7 tins Beans	2 tins Orange Juice
1 tin Spaghetti	1 tin Melon and Lemon Jam
7 tins Soup	4 tins Marmalade
4 tins Plums	7 tins Salmon
2 tins Rhubarb	3 tins Peas
3 tins Grapes	6 tins Cherries
1 tin Oranges	4 tins Frozen Egg
17 tins Luncheon Meat	3 boxes Cheese
1 tin Prunes	2 tins Ham
2 tins Tomatoes	1 tin Mustard
1 tin Pears	1 jar Peanut Butter
1 tin Shrimps	1 bottle Junket
3 tins Sardines	1 Packet Puffed Wheat
1 tin Jellied Veal	1 tin Tomato Juice
43½ lb. Beef	10 lb. Liver
	1 Leg Pork (20 lb.)
1 tin Sweet Corn	28 tins Evaporated Milk
1 jar Salad Cream	

**Food & Drugs Act, 1938.**—The Council has on Register the following food preparing premises:—

14 Cafes	32 Canteens
13 Fried Fish Shops	55 Ice Cream Premises
27 Butchers' Premises	16 Hotels as Catering Estab-
20 Bake-houses	lishments

Periodic visits have been paid throughout the year and, in the interests of hygiene, all premises have been issued with Notices for display — “To Exclude Dogs.”

**Ice Cream.**—5 premises hold licences for the sale and manufacture of ice cream, and 50 premises for the sale only of ice cream received from other licensed manufacturers.

The Health Department took 58 samples of ice cream during the year, with the following results:—

### RESULTS

58 Hot Mix — Grade 1	— 53 samples
„ 2	— 1 sample
„ 3	— 4 samples

In addition, the following, based upon a statement by the County Council Weights and Measures Inspectors, is a summary of other samples obtained in the Northwich Rural District during the year 1952:—

Name of Sample	Number obtained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality.
Aspirin Tablets ...	1	—
Cascara Sagrada (liquid) ...	1	—
Cheese (processed) ...	1	—
Coffee (ground) ...	1	—
Coffee & Chicory Essence ...	1	—
Cream of Tartar ...	1	—
Currie Powder ...	1	—
Epsom Salts ...	1	—
Fish Paste ...	1	—
Gelatine ...	1	—
Glycerine ...	2	—
Gravy Browning ...	1	—
Jam ...	1	—
Junket Powder ...	1	—
“Medimints” (drug) ...	1	—
Milk (fresh) ...	34	—
Mustard ...	1	—
Pepper (white) ...	2	—
Peppermints ...	1	—
Salad Cream ...	1	—



Tomato Ketchup	...	...	1	...	—
Treacle	...	...	1	...	—
Vinegar (malt)	...	...	1	...	—
Whiskey	...	...	1	...	—
			—		—
			59		nil
			—		—

It is very satisfactory to note that all the samples were found to be genuine.

## SECTION F.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

- (1) The incidence of Infectious Diseases, with the notable exception of Measles, Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough, was low, as may be gathered from the following table:—  
Incidence of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)  
during the year 1952.

DISEASES.	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	TOTAL DEATHS
Scarlet Fever ... ..	82	80	—
Whooping Cough .. ..	132	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis:			
Paralytic ... ..	5	5	—
Non-Paralytic ... ..	1	1	—
Measles ... ..	619	9	—
Acute Pneumonia ... ..	27	4	19
Dysentery ... ..	1	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	2	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	3	3	—

Copies of reports on all pathological specimens submitted by the local Doctors to the Manchester Public Health Laboratory are received by me. These are of great value in that immediate preventive measures can be put in hand by the Health Department where needed.

**(2) TUBERCULOSIS.**

The table below details the ages of both new cases and deaths from both forms of Tuberculosis.

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
1- 5 years ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
5-15 „ ...	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
15-25 „ ...	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
25-35 „ ...	4	4	—	2	1	—	—	—
35-45 „ ...	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
45-55 „ ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55-65 „ ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards ..	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	10	12	3	2	4	2	—	1

During 1952, 17 cases were admitted to and 15 discharged from Sanatoria.

Number of patients on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the years:—

1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
215	243	257	272	238	244	229	229	232	230	190	218

**B.C.G. Protection against Tuberculosis.**—B.C.G. vaccination of contacts to cases of tuberculosis in the N.R.D. has been carried out during the year, as follows:—

At the Local Chest  
Clinic by the Chest  
Physician.

14

At St. Mary's Hospital,  
Manchester, to new-  
born Babies.

6

At Patients' Homes  
and District Child  
Welfare Centres by  
myself.

5

In addition, 9 Northwich Rural contacts to cases of tuberculosis were referred to the Chest Physician by me for X-ray and observation after preliminary tests had shown that they had been already infected with the germs of tuberculosis.

**(3) DISINFECTION OF PREMISES.**

The disinfection of 162 premises was carried out during the year, as follows:—

For Vermin (using D.D.T. and "Gammexane") ...	28 houses
For Tuberculosis (plus steam disinfection of bedding) ... ..	16 „
For Infectious Diseases ... ..	117 „
For Scarlet Fever and Measles Outbreak ... ..	1 school
Total ... ..	162

I would like to say, in closing this report, how much I appreciate the help I have received from the Members of the Council and Officials in dealing with the various matters which have arisen during the year.

W. S. SLATER, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1953.

N.B.—By the time this report returns from press, the removal of the combined Divisional and M.O.H. Office from its present quarters at Whitehall to Hartford Hill, Darwin Street, Northwich, where other County Health Services are already established, will no doubt have taken place.





